



AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY

Housing: Question on Bedrooms (H-8)

FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL USES OF DATA ABOUT BEDROOMS

- The Department of Health and Human Services' (HHS) Administration for Children and Families uses these data to determine the allocation of funds from states to eligible entities and to determine low-income housing needs.
- The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) also determines the Community Development Block Grant formula amount for eligible jurisdictions.
- HUD distributes Community Development funds across HUD's Office of Native American Programs Area Offices.
- HUD provides Emergency Shelter Grants for eligible jurisdictions.
- HUD requires state and local governments to provide an inventory of housing units compared with an assessment of the needs of families residing in the jurisdiction.
- Individuals use these data when considering where to relocate.
- Community organizations and developers use these data to determine the size and type of housing needed in neighborhoods.
- State and local governments, faith-based and other non-profit organizations, and businesses use these data to plan, budget, and pay benefits.

QUESTION AS IT APPEARS IN THE QUESTIONNAIRE

8 How many bedrooms are in this house, apartment, or mobile home; that is, how many bedrooms would you list if this house, apartment, or mobile home were on the market for sale or rent?

☐ No bedroom

☐ 1 bedroom

☐ 2 bedrooms

☐ 3 bedrooms

☐ 4 bedrooms

☐ 5 or more bedrooms

EXAMPLES OF LEGAL REQUIREMENTS FOR DATA ABOUT BEDROOMS

- Community Services Block Grant Act
- Low-Income Housing, Title 42, Chapter 8
- Community Development, Title 42, Chapter 69
- Community Development Block Grants for Indian Tribes and Native Alaskans, Title 42, Chapter 69
- Homeless Assistance, Subchapter IV Part B; Emergency Shelter Grants, Title 42, Chapter 119
- National Affordable Housing Subchapter I—State and Local Housing Strategies, Title 42, Chapter 130

<www.census.gov/acs/www>

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Helping You Make Informed Decisions



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HISTORY OF THE BEDROOMS QUESTION

- The question on number of bedrooms has been asked since 1980.
- The question also was asked on the Census 2000 long-form questionnaire.

WHY WE ASK IT THIS WAY

Since bedrooms are used mainly for sleeping, this item can be combined with other characteristics as an important indicator of housing adequacy. It also provides a standardized basis to evaluate the cost of shelter.

WHAT IS THE AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY

The American Community Survey (ACS) is a nationwide survey that collects socioeconomic and housing information and is the planned replacement for the long form in the 2010 Census.

The U.S. Census Bureau plans to conduct the ACS in every county, American Indian and Alaska Native Area, Hawaiian Home Land, and in Puerto Rico, once it is fully implemented, pending Congressional funding. The ACS has been tested across the country since 1996.

HOW CAN I SEE THE RESULTS OF THE SURVEY ?

The information collected from these tests is published on the Census Bureau's Web site at:

<www.census.gov/acs/www>

and American FactFinder at:

<<http://factfinder.census.gov>>

For more information call, e-mail, or visit our Web site:

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<<http://www.census.gov/acs/www>>

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